Saint Green. 10 July 1739.

Dear Sir,

I have thought myself interested in the
behaviour of Perkins, and undertaken to stand as mediator between
him and Mr. Thorpe. I call your attention to the following
passage in a letter, received the day before yesterday from Lisbon.
"He has offered all kinds of willingness to engineer, but
he is nothing more than a mere apothecary. So that I must work,
after the Hogarth hours, to obtain all the knowledge I require,
which he is certainly not capable of giving me."
Valiant was that made use of said to Hogarth; because,
if such is undoubtedly the fact, how came he to commence
even this month's trial without being aware of it? A
midwifing engineer, doubtless! An engineer and no needle-maker;
but neither is of that kind to be of future service to my
boy, unless he intends to be a midwife. In regarding to
his representations, a small premium and a large amount
of time will be necessary for absolute clothing. By
his letter it appears he is more than perfectly
surprised at the manner in which apothecaries trade, although,
by this account, it cannot be beneficial to them; at least,
not much so with the charge of the three years. He will be,
in the event of a civil engineer, no better than he is at
the present moment. Therefore, I am to understand the

above extract literally, I cannot consent that he should make so great a sacrifice. In case of necessity, will you have the kindness to explain my objection to Mr. Chorley?

Darlino, in a former letter, seems to have a notion that I would prefer his being in a Government Office. He has misunderstood me. I approve of such an Office, but more approve of his being employed agreeably to his talent and inclination. Had I not thought his impending engagement was eligible, I should have written to him ten days ago about an application for a post under Mr. Delabeche, the celebrated geologist, who is appointed by Government to make geological surveys. Not long ago, he wanted assistants. Government has empowered him to engage a limited number of young men at £4 or £5 to £8 or £10 a day — the exact pay I forget, but it is good. The only objection is that such a situation is not permanent and leads directly to nothing. When no more wanted, the young men may be turned adrift. On the other hand, Mr. Delabeche is a kind hearted liberal man, and with much influence, not likely to abandon a youth, were he partial to him for assiduity and talent. Darlino's mathematical acquirements might make him welcome and I suppose Mr. D. meets with few youths who have even a smattering of mineralogy; that lad would be to be learned and no where better, or so well, than under him.

I want to write to Carlino, but know not whither to address a letter. By one passage in his last, it seems he will return from London in a very short time; and he says nothing to the contrary. Yet he asks questions, and wants answers. He is yet unused to correspondence. He wishes to know if he may give letters of introduction to a friend of Mr Kleynmeer;— of course he may to Mr Kirkup and Mr Severn; but he has put it out of my power to tell him so, possibly, in time. He has written about the non-arrival of his trunks. They were sent and addressed by me according to his request. Have the kindness to tell him that my written account of his complaint went yesterday, through Mr Bleewit's hands, by the Brunswick, to Mr Wheeler at Portsmouth. The trunks were seen safe on board the Brunswick by Mr May Sen.r.

Your friendliness to Carlino I regard as an obligation to both of us. The account, though not the best, which you gave on 26 June of your own health does not appear to me, in any view, discouraging. As for varicose veins, I have seen Cads with them, and have had them myself for these 15 years, owing to a day's walk, on the Siena road, in the heat of the sun, having changed my long stockings for short ones, thereby depriving the calf of the leg of its usual supports. But what you say of Mary's becoming of too full a habit, which was observable four years ago, is a matter which